

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00051 070915Z

15

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 RSC-01 /031 W

----- 077376

R 070746Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2314

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 0051

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (ROCKEFELLER, DAVID), SY

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DAVID ROCKEFELLER TO DAMASCUS

REF: STATE 282437

1. SUMMARY. SARG WILL WARMLY WELCOME ROCKEFELLER VISIT TO SYRIA AND WE OUTLINE SUGGESTED SCHEDULE BELOW. NEED REACTION FROM ROCKEFELLER'S STAFF SO WE MAY TAKE NECESSARY ACTIONS RE APPOINTMENTS/INVITATIONS AND FLIGHT PLANS. END SUMMARY.

2. WOULD APPRECAITE NEA/ARN CALLING JOSEPH REED OF CHASE MANHATTAN (OFF. 212/552-555, RES. 212/472-3131) ON MY BEHALF AND ROD WRIGHT'S (WHO ASSISTED REED IN KATHMANDU AND WASHINGTON AS I DID IN JORDAN) AND INFORMING HIM AS FOLLOWS: PROPOSED VISIT OF DAVID ROCKEFELLER, DERRICK RICHARDSON AND REED WILL BE WARMLY WELCOMED BY SARG. THIS IS EXACTLY TYPE OF VISIT THAT SYRIAN OFFICIALS AT HIGHEST LEVELS HAVE CONTINUALLY ASKED ME TO ARRANGE. IN DISCUSSION WITH DON RICHTENBURG, CHASE/BEIRUT, WE AWARE ROCKEFELLER HOPES TO SEE BOTH PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN LEBANON AND ALSO THERE MIGHT POSSIBLY BE CHANGES IN TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OUTLINED IN REFTTEL. WE WOULD VERY MUCH HOPE FOR OVERNIGHT STOP IN DAMASCUS, AS THERE IS MUCH TO SEE AND LEARN IN THIS IMPORTANT MIDDLE EAST COUNTRY FROM WHICH WE AND U.S. FIRMS AND BANKS HAVE BEEN ABSENT FOR SEVEN YEARS PRIOR TO REOPENING OF RELATIONS LAST JUNE.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE REED'S REACTION TO FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING ROCKEFELLER'S SCHEDULE IN DAMASCUS, ASSUMING OVERNIGHT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DAMASC 00051 070915Z

VISIT JAN. 27/28 (ALL TIMES LOCAL):

1200 ARRIVAL DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT VIA GULFSTREAM II

(100 WK) FROM RIYADH;

1300 BRIEFING AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE BY MYSELF AND EMBASSY OFFICER S;

1400 STAG LUNCHEON TO WHICH I WOULD SUGGEST INVITING FOLLOWING:

A. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MOHAMED HAYDAR (ARABIC ONLY, HEADS SARG ECONOMIC COUNCIL RESPONSIBLE FOR BOTH ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENTAL MATTERS; GEORGE VOJDA, FNCB SENIOR V-P HAD GOOD MEETING WITH HAYDAR IN LATE OCTOBER AND HAYDAR OUR KEY "MOVER AND DOER" FOR DEVELOPMENT OF U.S. ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO SYRIA);

B. ECONOMY AND FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER DR. MOHAMED IMADI (ENGLISH, N.Y.U. PH.D., ECONOMICS, FORMER PLANNING MINISTER; KEY WELL-TRAINED FIGURE IN PRES. ASAD'S ECONOMIC LIBERALIZATION EFFORTS);

C. CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR NASSOUH DAKKAK (ARABIC, FRENCH, SOME ENGLISH; ATTENDS IMF/IBRD BOARD MEETINGS; NAJEEB HALABY HAD LUNCH WITH HIM OCT. 30);

D. CENTRAL BANK DEPUTY GOV. MOHAMED AL-ATRASH (ENGLISH, U.K. EDUCATED ,

REPUTED "BRAINS" AT CENTRAL BANK, RECENTLY ELECTED DIRECTOR ON IBRD BOARD -- IF HE IS BACK FROM WASHINGTON);

E. COMMERCIAL BANK OF SYRIA (CBS) BOARD CHAIRMAN AND GENERAL MANAGER DR. DIB ABUASSALI (FAIRLY GOOD ENGLISH, HEADS MONOPOLY STATE BANK IN SYRIA; ALSO HAD LUNCH WITH HALABY OCT. 30);

F. FINANCE MINISTER MOHAMAD EL-SHARIF (ARABIC, FORMER DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMS, MORE OF A TECHNICIAN RATHER THAN POLICY-MAKER);

G. PETROLEUM AND MINERAL RESOURCES MINISTER DR. ADNAN MUSTAFA (ENGLISH, PH.D./SCIENCE/LONDON, MOST EAGER TO GET PETROLEUM SECTOR ROLLING IN SYRIA, AND ALONG WITH HAYDAR/IMADI, WANTING TO GET U.S. OIL AND/OR MINERAL FIRMS IN SYRIA);

OTHER SUGGESTIONS WOULD ALSO BE IN GOVERNMENT SECTOR, BUT PERHAPS OF LESS PRIORITY OR ARABIC-SPEAKERS ONLY; WOULD APPRECIATE ANY OTHER SECTORS THAT REED BELIEVES SHOULD BE COVERED; FROM EMBASSY WOULD BE AMBASSADOR, NEW DCM ROBERT H. PELLETREAU, JR. AND WRIGHT.

1630-1730 SHORT SIGHTSEEING IF SO DESIRED; NIGHTFALL IS

ABOUT 1710 NOW; OR 1630-1830, POSSIBLY OTHER INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS IN SECTORS REED TO IDENTIFY. ALTHOUGH GOVERNMENT HOURS END AT 1400, WE PROBABLY COULD ARRANGE INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENT WITH HAYDAR, IMADI OR OTHERS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DAMASC 00051 070915Z

DINNER AND BEYOND SHOULD BE HELD SOMEWHAT LOOSE AS THIS USUALLY IS BEST PERIOD TO CATCH PRES. ASAD AND NOTICE MAY BE SHORT AS TO WHEN MEETING MAY BE SCHEDULED.

JAN. 28, 0830, DEPART FROM AIRPORT VIA GULFSTREAM II FOR

LESS THAN 50 MINUTE (CARVELLE TIME) FLIGHT, DAMASCUS/TABQA (SITE OF EUPHRATES DAM, 251 NAUTICAL MILES FROM DAMASCUS, 2,850 METER

RUNWAY ON WHICH CARAVELLES LAND, ELEV . 1,280 FEET).  
0915-1045 - VISIT EUPHRATES DAM, KEY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
IN SYRIA, LEARN OF LARGE-SCALE EUPHRATES BASIN DEVELOPMENT PLANS  
IN WHICH ROMANIA, JAPAN, IBRD ALREADY ACTIVE. WE ARE MAKING  
THIS SUGGESTION BECAUSE: FLYING INTERNALLY GIVES USEFUL VIEW  
OF SCOPE OF COUNTRY, POSSIBILITY OF INVITING KEY MINISTER OR TWO  
TO JOIN FLIGHT WOULD BE MEANS TO CONTINUE MEETINGS WITH SARG  
OFFICIALS, AND WOULD DEMONSTRATE GULFSTREAM II (SARG VERY  
INTERESTED IN PURCHASING TWO OR THREE EXECUTIVE JET AIRCRAFT).  
IF SYRIAN ABOARD, THUS REQUIRING RETURN TO DAMASCUS, THIS WOULD MEAN  
AROUND 1145 POSSIBILITY FOR DEPARTURE FROM DAMASCUS TO ONWARD  
STOP.  
OR, MORNING COULD BE USED FOR FURTHER INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS  
DEPENDING ON WHEN PARTY HAS TO LEAVE DAMASCUS.

4. MR. ROCKEFELLER CORDIALLY INVITED TO STAY AT RESIDENCE; MESSRS  
RICHARDSON AND REED ALSO INVITED TO SHARE ROOM AT RESIDENCE.  
WOULD APPRECIATE INFO WHETHER PILOTS ALREADY HAVE RESERVATIONS AT  
AIRPORT HOTEL OR ELSEWHERE.

5. STATE 001931 JUST RECEIVED AND WE MOST PLEASED TO LEARN OVERNIGHT  
INDEED PLANNED FOR DAMASCUS, WITH DEPARTURE FOR IRAQ ON JAN. 28.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION ARRIVAL TIME JAN. 27,  
AND PLANNED ETD FOR IRAQ. REED'S REACTIONS TO ABOVE SUGGESTIONS  
WOULD BE HELPFUL, IN ADDITION TO ANY FURTHER COMMENTS HE OR  
ROCKEFELLER MIGHT HAVE.

7. ALSO, IS ROCKEFELLER REQUESTING MEETING WITH PRES. ASAD THROUGH  
SYRIAN UN MISSION OR THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS? IF NOT, DOES HE WISH  
EMBASSY TO REQUEST APPOINTMENT? SUCH REQUEST WILL HAVE TO BE VIA  
OFFICIAL NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THEREFORE, GIVEN LOCAL  
PRACTICE, WILL MEAN THAT SARG WILL EXPECT AMBASSADOR TO ACCOMPANY  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 DAMASC 00051 070915Z

ROCKEFELLER.  
MURPHY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975DAMASC00051  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750005-1151  
**From:** DAMASCUS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750174/aaaacmot.tel  
**Line Count:** 156  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 282437  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13 AUG 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF DAVID ROCKEFELLER TO DAMASCUS  
**TAGS:** OVIP, SY, (ROCKEFELLER, DAVID)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006